Response to USPTO Office Action of 3/22/07

Confirmation Number: 7077

Examiner: Uzma Alam

Art Unit: 2157

Title: File Based Workflow System and Methods

Application Number: 09/974,594

Inventor: Norman Ken Ouchi

Date: July 12, 2007

Action is FINAL

Discussion

Thank you for the informative discussion on June 28, 2007. I have summarized the points and agreements:
1) Gondo does not teach the use of a workflow to control the processing of classified files.
2) The claims are amended to more clearly specify that the workflow determines the classification of the files to be processed rather than the user classifying the files.
3) The amended claims are the basis for a Request for Continued Examination. A copy of the RCE application is included in this FAX where the original and check have been sent by mail.

Gondo paragraph [0055]

> [0055] Upon receiving the information, the information collection/management apparatus 106 stores it as collected information into the collected-information database 107. The collected-information database 107 classifies the collected information by the business category and stores it as registered information 110 in the form of card data separately depending on the business category. The collected-information database 107 includes a plurality of sub-databases 108 and 109, wherein a category (such as new products, existing products, or troubles/complaints) of collected information is assigned to each sub-database, and each sub-database stores collected information classified into the assigned category.
>
> [0056] Right of access is prescribed so as to indicate

Gondo teaches an information collection/proving system which users classify and store information in the form of files, access files based on classifications specified by users, notifies users of file classifications selected by the users, and

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